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Caroliniana Columns - Spring 2000

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Caroliniana Columns

University South Caroliniana Society

Spring 2000



LATIMER PAPERS OFFER INSIDE SCOOP ON *THE STATE*

The career of Samuel Lowry Latimer, Jr. (1891-1975) made him the authoritative source on Columbia's leading newspaper, *The State*. He spent fifty-four years with the paper, serving as its editor from 1941 until 1960. Indeed, his personal memories went back to 1907, when he answered a want ad for "office boy" under publisher Ambrose E. Gonzales. Latimer's papers have been arranged as part of a recent grant project and are now available for research in the Library's Manuscripts Division.

The heart of the collection consists of Latimer's correspondence during the time he ran *The State*. Correspondence provides a look at the

See Latimer on page 3

64th Annual Meeting University South Caroliniana Society

Saturday, May 13, 2000

Speaker: Dr. William W. Freehling will present "South Carolina's Pivotal Decision for Disunion: A Popular Mandate or a Manipulated Verdict"

Author of *Prelude to Civil War: The Nullification Controversy in South Carolina, 1816-1836*; *The Road to Disunion: Secessionists at Bay, 1776-1854*; *Secessionists Triumphant, 1854-1861* (forthcoming)

AUGUST KOHN: VERSATILE SOUTH CAROLINIAN

August Kohn, *Versatile South Carolinian* is the title that Helen Kohn Hennig gave to the biography of her father. It is appropriate, for in addition to distinguished careers in journalism and business, August Kohn was an enthusiastic collector of South Caroliniana. At the time of his death in 1930, his library was probably the most comprehensive private collection of Caroliniana in the state. Helen Kohn Hennig shared her father's interest in collecting and continued to add significant titles to the collection during her lifetime. In 1999, through the generosity of Mr. Julian Hennig, the grandson of August Kohn and son of Helen Kohn Hennig, the South Caroliniana Library received the initial gift of this remarkable collection of Caroliniana that was started a century ago.

Kohn was born in Orangeburg on February 25, 1868. His father, Theodore, emigrated from Germany at a young age and settled in Orangeburg, as did his mother Rosa Wald, who emigrated from Zeben, Austria. Theodore Kohn served in the Confederate army and was severely wounded at Drury's Bluff. After the war, he engaged in the mercantile and banking business in Orangeburg, where he and Rosa raised their family.

August Kohn was educated at



The centerpiece of August Kohn's bookplate depicts his home at 1520 Senate Street.

Sheridan Classical School in Orangeburg and in the public schools of New York City. He entered South Carolina College in 1885 and graduated *cum laude* in 1889. He engaged in several professions during his lifetime, most notably journalism and business. Kohn began his journalistic career in Columbia as a reporter for the *News & Courier* at a weekly salary of \$9.00. He was appointed head of the paper's Columbia bureau in 1892 and remained with the *News & Courier* until 1906.

The emergence of the Tillmanites, the creation of the Dispensary, the hurricane of 1893, and the constitutional convention of 1895 were among the events and occasions on which August Kohn reported for the

See Kohn-Hennig on page 6

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This is my first chance to communicate with the members of the South Caroliniana Society and to share some of my excitement regarding the collections and future business plans. First, though, I must recognize the outstanding efforts of our previous president, Harvey Teal. Both the collections and the resources of the Society expanded under his dedicated leadership, and the organization is stronger due to his efforts. It is my intent that we continue his emphasis on expanding the collections. I also hope to branch out in new directions and focus on expanding membership and improving public outreach efforts.

It is important that the Society diversifies its membership to include younger members. I believe we have a chance to reach a younger generation and interest them in the history of South Carolina. Studies have shown that an appreciation of one's roots and studies of history in general make more rounded citizens. If we

can interest our children and their children in what we are doing here at the Caroliniana, I believe we will make their lives richer and our state a better place. In this regard, some of the ideas that people have mentioned thus far include:

1. Family memberships that would allow members to include younger children at a nominal cost.
2. Children's exhibits at some of our functions.
3. Traveling exhibits that could go to schools and serve to augment history lessons and interest students in South Carolina's history.

I also believe that we should broaden our outreach effort along general public lines, and that, by doing so, we will strengthen the Society. In particular, we should emphasize our links with local history organizations throughout the state. This is an undertaking already begun by Col. Frank Babbitt, our vice-president, through his implementation of a network of regional repre-

sentatives. I hope those of you who are members of such groups will consider holding meetings at the Library. Some staff may serve as speakers for such meetings. Staff are also willing to serve as speakers before civic clubs or other organizations in an effort to bring more exposure to both the Library and the Society.

When Harvey Teal and I spoke about the role of the Society president, I asked him what he would like to see accomplished. He explained that the work of the Society is mainly about the three "M's": Manuscripts, Membership, and Money. His focus was on the first. Mine will be on the second. Maybe another person can address the third.

I welcome your input regarding the future of the South Caroliniana Society. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions.

-Harry M. Lightsey, Jr.

A NORTHERN LIGHT



Liz Buchanan

Traveling to Columbia from Austin, Minnesota, Elizabeth Buchanan recently spent a long weekend in the Library researching a project for National History Day. A high school senior, Liz is writing a script for the individual performance category of this year's competition entitled "Turning Points in History." Liz will portray Martha Schofield, the Quaker who founded the Schofield Normal and Industrial School in Aiken in 1869. She hopes her performance will demonstrate that the educator's

actions formed a turning point in Southern African-American education. After having thoroughly researched her subject at Miss Schofield's alma mater, Swarthmore College last summer, Liz says she gleaned still more insight into her subject's personality from the manuscripts available at the South Caroliniana Library.

-Robin Copp

inner workings of the newspaper business as well as the idiosyncrasies of *The State* and its readers. Sensitive topics include policies relating to stories about African-Americans, libel issues, and opposition by church groups to liquor advertising. Business relations with competitors like the *Columbia Record* involved arguments over timing of wire service releases and bans on free publicity for advertisers. Even the evidence of day-to-day business is of historical interest: an in-house style sheet Latimer compiled as managing editor reveals that as late as the 1940s, the paper (which had been founded by Cuban-Americans) required its reporters to spell the capital of Cuba as "Habana."

The paper's editorial content sparked praise and complaints from readers as varied as Roy Wilkins and Mrs. William F. Buckley, Sr. An editorial on national defense that appeared in the June 25, 1945, issue brought a complimentary letter from General George S. Patton, Jr. "Owing to my unfortunate capacity to produce arguments," Patton wrote Latimer, "I trust that you will not directly quote this letter, which is only written out of sincere appreciation of what you wrote."

Extensive files of syndicate and feature service correspondence reflect American popular culture of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. In 1941 a nationally-syndicated columnist offered a lovelorn South Carolina reader advice contrary to the state's divorce laws. The following year libel problems forced the paper to drop Drew Pearson's gossip column. In 1948 Dr. Frederic Wertham's crusade against comics prompted King Features Syndicate manager Ward Greene to publish a circular letter defending his company's editorial decisions and describing Wertham as a "very prejudiced and badly informed psychiatrist."

Latimer's files include not only his own papers but material he collected

and used to write his historical narrative *The Story of the State* (1970). Twenty-four folders of Gonzales family papers extend as far back as the founding of the paper in 1891. There are documents relating to the Tillman-Gonzales feud of the 1890s and the later trial of Lieutenant Governor James Tillman for the murder of editor N. G. Gonzales.

Latimer's activities outside the newspaper office make this collection a treasure trove of unexpected finds. His papers document the South Carolina American Legion, the Columbia Housing Authority, Fort Jackson, and Columbia's First Presbyterian Church. His voluminous correspondence as a second lieutenant in the United States Army's "Wildcat Division" is a significant source for World War I research. And his interest in history led him to preserve

nineteenth century ancestral papers from York County including Witherspoon, Williams, and Deal family papers.

The twenty-two cartons of documents that comprise Latimer's papers are supplemented by two cartons of photographs, making this an addition to the Library's visual records as well as its written records.

-Terry W. Lipscomb



Left to right: A letter to Latimer from General John J. Pershing, 1938; A photograph of Latimer during his years at *The State*, circa 1930s; Original manuscript page from a Kiwanis Club booklet of member profiles, circa 1930s.

COMPASSIONATE LEADERSHIP: THE ROBERT E. MCNAIR PAPERS PROJECT



Modern Political Collections is currently processing the papers of Robert E. McNair. When work is complete, researchers will have access to a wealth of information on post-World War II South Carolina. McNair provided South Carolina with strong and progressive leadership as a member of the South Carolina House, lieutenant governor, governor, and as a lawyer in private practice. The collection is large and rich and documents McNair's service in World War II, his political campaigns, and his distinguished career in public service.

McNair's gubernatorial papers form the collection's largest and most important series. McNair was elected lieutenant governor in 1962 and served until April 1965 when then-Governor Donald Russell took over the United States Senate seat of Olin D. Johnston. McNair assumed the role of governor, and in 1966 he was elected to a full term. McNair's

accomplishments as governor included important advances in education; notable improvement in coordination and cooperation among state agencies, commissions, and bureaus; the involvement of the public in planning and decision-making; a new emphasis on tourism, including the creation of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism; and continued aggressive industrial recruitment.

Evidence of McNair's interest in the public welfare of the state's citizens is present throughout the collection. To help him craft his vision for South Carolina and its government, McNair requested the compilation of a detailed analysis of the status of education, transportation, health care, and other areas impacted by the government. Published in 1968, *Opportunity and Growth in South Carolina, 1968-1985*, prepared by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., and commonly referred to as the "Moody Report," contained over 440 pages of constructive analysis. The report provided exhaustive reports and financial data previously unavailable to the state's leaders, challenged long held assumptions, and included specific recommendations on how best to advance South Carolina over the coming decades. Its long awaited publication generated great debate in the General Assembly and among the public.

Of particular research interest are the files documenting McNair's forceful response to the 1970 school integration incident in Lamar, South Carolina. A mob of protesters overturned a school bus transporting

African American school children to Lamar's public schools as part of a newly implemented integration program. The event drew national attention to the state and the subsequent trial of those arrested brought a flood of mail addressed to the governor from across South Carolina and the nation. The letters present a fascinating cross section of public opinion.

Work on the McNair papers currently at hand should be completed late this year. Additionally, readers interested in a more detailed analysis of McNair's role in South Carolina's history can look forward to the publication of a study authored by USC political scientist and administrator Blease Graham and former McNair staff member and current Director of the South Carolina Executive Institute Philip Grose, Jr.

With the addition of the McNair collection, the Library now has or is receiving the personal papers of recent governors Hollings, Russell, McNair, West, Edwards, and Riley.

-Herbert J. Hartsook

Visitors to the Modern Political Collections reading room can see the desk used by McNair as chair of the House Judiciary Committee. Governor McNair donated the desk to the Library along with his papers.

MAPS, MAPS, AND MORE MAPS!

The Books Division is renowned for its map collection, which has developed through hard work and a commitment to the acquisitions policy. Long recognized as remarkable, the collection is represented by an amazing selection of seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth century maps. And for the last year, the staff and interested patrons have worked hard to augment the collection's twentieth century maps.

An outstanding example of this is a nearly complete series of South Carolina Highway Transportation System maps. With the introduction of the automobile in the late nineteenth century, the need for improved roads became apparent. As automobile transportation became a reality and more individuals took to the road, there also emerged a need for more detailed highway maps. At that time, South Carolina's roads fell under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries, which produced the first maps of the state roadways. The Library is fortunate to have several of these early maps.

In 1916 limited federal funding for road construction led, in part, to the creation of the State Highway Department (now the Department of Transportation) a year later. This agency began almost annual publication of official highway system maps. Out of eighty-two possible years' worth of maps, the Library holds seventy-three maps which serve to demonstrate the change and growth of the state's highway system. At most, the Library is missing nine: the maps for 1921, 1924, 1926,

1936, 1938, and 1943 through 1946. However, it is possible that during World War II the department did not produce maps, so the number missing may not be accurate. For many of these maps, the Library is indebted to Mr. John Henderson of the South Carolina Department of Transportation.

In conjunction with the government-produced maps, Library patron and Society member Mr. Fred Holder has augmented the collection with automobile trail maps from the first half of the twentieth century. Automobile enthusiasts and businessmen, often associated with the Better Roads Association, charted road networks nationwide to help motorists find the best travel routes. The 1921 Federal Road Act created a proliferation of interstate roads carrying a confusing variety of names, resulting in the establishment of federal road numbers in the mid-1920's. Consequently, the Indian Trail became US #1, one of the earliest major north-south routes.

These publications had special strip maps with accompanying material listing places of interest, automobile repair shops, restaurants, tourist houses, and tourist courts. Especially popular were those routes from northern cities to the Gulf Coast and Florida. Notable trails through South Carolina were the Dixie and Appalachian Highways, and the Woodpecker and Indian Trails.

A third noteworthy group of maps the Library is in the process of acquiring is the United States Department of Agriculture County soil maps from the early 1900s. Not

only do these maps serve an obvious geographic function, but, perhaps more significantly for some researchers, they outline the location of roads, houses, churches, and schools. These details are of immense use to many types of researchers including historians, genealogists, archaeologists, and engineers. To supplement these county maps, the Library endeavors to acquire individual town and city maps to further demonstrate the urbanization of the state over time.

Although the Library is currently focusing on developing its twentieth century maps, it still seeks to acquire older maps. Books Division is always on the lookout for unique materials to augment the collection. The Library welcomes additions from its Society members and other interested parties; please contact Robin Copp in the Books Division with any information or suggestions.

Robin Copp

Please look for a display of some of our fascinating "new" (to the South Caroliniana Library) maps at the annual meeting.

Background image: *Piedmont Highway Association Hard-Surfaced Highway Map, "The Piedmont Route," ca 1920s*



1888 copy of *A Descriptive Sketch of Orangeburg*.

News and Courier. Over the course of his life, Kohn also found time for other writing. In 1888, while still a student at South Carolina College, he published *A Descriptive Sketch of Orangeburg, City and County, South Carolina*. In 1903 he published *The Cotton Mills of South Carolina*, which garnered national attention. In 1905 he published *Columbia – Old and New*. “*The People Are the City*.” Even after he left the *News & Courier* in 1906 to enter business as a real estate developer and securities broker, Kohn continued to contribute special articles and reported on sessions of the General Assembly.

Kohn's devotion to South Carolina led to an interest in collecting the books, pamphlets, and other materials that recorded its history. He lived at a time when pamphlets were one of the chief venues for airing political views. Railroads and manufacturing companies issued annual reports, and educational institutions published catalogs and other reports in pamphlet format. Cities and towns promoted the advantages of their

particular climates and locales in countless “booster” pamphlets. From the earliest promotional literature of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries until recent times, South Carolinians have sought to promote, inform, educate, and indoctrinate through pamphlets. Although pamphlets were not intended to survive for centuries, collectors like August Kohn thought otherwise; fortunately, Caroliniana titles from the previous two centuries were plentiful during Kohn's lifetime.

Kohn was not alone in pursuing his avocation. In fact, he had been encouraged to take up collecting as a hobby by another collector, Dr. J.W. Babcock. Other contemporaries who were equally enthusiastic in their pursuit of Caroliniana were Yates Snowden, A.S. Salley, J. Rion McKissick, William A. Courtenay, Harry L. Watson, and Henry C. Davis.

Kohn's collecting interests also extended beyond pamphlets. He sought all the most significant books, including memoirs, biographies, and documentary editions, of South Carolina's participation in the American Revolution. South Carolinians continued to play a prominent role in the nation's history between the Revolution and the Civil War; Kohn eagerly acquired titles on the leading figures of that time, as well as publications in the areas of natural history, medicine, military affairs, and education. His collection included publications about travel, religion, public laws, and education.

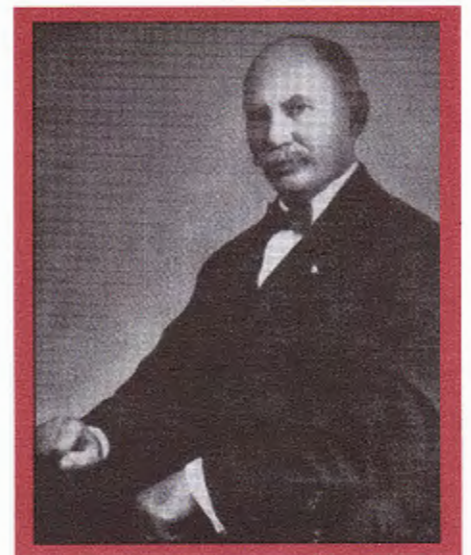
Books by nineteenth-century South Carolina writers, county histories, church histories, and serials are also

found in the collection. In addition to their historic relevance, many of the materials are significant since they contain invoices and correspondence from dealers.

One can imagine August Kohn searching for Caroliniana as he traveled around the state on business and journalistic pursuits. Trips to New York and Europe became occasions for browsing in book shops. Auctions were another source for adding to his collection. Some of the titles in his library also came as the result of gifts from friends.

Upon his death in 1930, Kohn's collection passed to his daughter, Helen Kohn Hennig. Born in 1896, Helen Kohn received degrees from the College for Women and her father's alma mater, the University of South Carolina. She married Julian H. Hennig in 1920.

Mrs. Hennig shared her father's interest in the history of South Carolina and its capital city, Columbia. When the city celebrated its



Photograph of Kohn from the frontispiece of Helen Kohn Hennig's biography, *August Kohn, Versatile South Carolinian*.

sesquicentennial in 1936, Mrs. Hennig edited *Columbia, Capital City of South Carolina* which remains an important resource for studying Columbia's history. Her contributions to South Carolina history and biography include *Great South Carolinians* (1940); *Great South Carolinians of a Later Date* (1949); *August Kohn, Versatile South Carolinian* (1949); *The Tree of Life: Fifty Years of Congregational Life at the Tree of Life Synagogue* (1945); and *William Harrison Scarborough, Portraitist and Miniaturist* (1937). The latter title, Columbia's sesqui-centennial history, and *Great South Carolinians* are titles that any serious contemporary collector of South Caroliniana would want to own. The scarcest of these titles is probably Hennig's book on Scarborough.

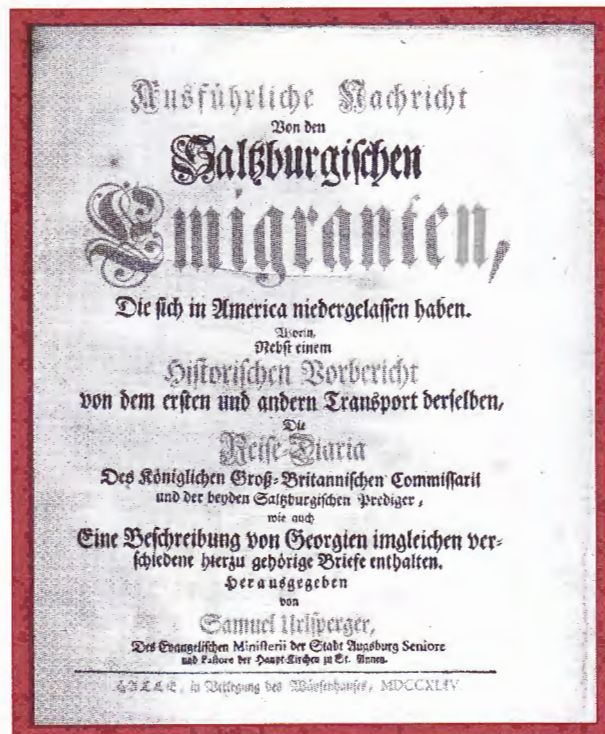
Like her father, Mrs. Hennig was involved in many civic organizations in Columbia, including the Columbia Museum of Art, the Town Theatre, and the Columbia Planning Commission. A lifelong member of the Tree of Life Synagogue, she established the Tree of Life Religious School and held national office in the Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. Mrs. Hennig is among those acknowledged in *Be It Remembered* for her contributions to the Robert Mills Historic House and Park. She was also a frequent visitor to the South Caroliniana Library, where she conducted her own research and was supportive of Dr. Robert L. Meriwether's efforts to collect Caroliniana.

Over the course of her life, Mrs. Hennig continued to add to the

library through her own publications as well as through the acquisition of additional rare South Caroliniana. She also oversaw two moves of the collection from August Kohn's home at 1520 Senate Street, to an apartment, and later to 811 Woodland Drive in 1941.

After Mrs. Hennig's death in 1961, the Kohn-Hennig library was maintained by her husband until his death in 1971 and then by her son, Julian Hennig, Jr. In 1999 Mr. Hennig initiated discussions with the South Caroliniana Library concerning the disposition of what must certainly be the most complete and comprehensive collection of Caroliniana in private hands. The donation of the collection will occur over a period of years, although most of the several thousand titles will be deposited in the South Caroliniana Library during the current year.

The initial gift was received in



Title page of the first volume of Samuel Urlsperger's *Detailed Reports*...



Woodcut engraving from the first volume of Urlsperger's *Detailed Reports*...

December 1999 and included the extremely rare journal of Samuel Urlsperger, *Detailed Reports on the Salzburger Emigrants Who Settled in America*... (1744-1752), seven bound volumes of political pamphlets containing 157 titles, and six bound volumes of South Carolina College pamphlets containing 109 titles.

Thus, over the next several years, the library that started as a hobby by University of South Carolina alumnus and trustee August Kohn and was added to and preserved by his daughter Helen Kohn Hennig and grandson Julian Hennig, Jr. will join the collections of his fellow collectors—Yates Snowden, A.S. Salley, Henry C. Davis, Harry L. Watson, and J. Rion McKissick.

-Dr. Allen Stokes

FOURTH VOLUME OF SOUTH CAROLINA POSTCARDS TO INCLUDE LEXINGTON COUNTY IMAGES

South Caroliniana Library assistant director Dr. Thomas L. Johnson and retired USC art professor Howard Woody have begun work on the fourth book in their multi-volume photographic series being issued by British-owned Arcadia Publishing, whose main American offices are located in Charleston. The third volume, *West Central Carolina: Aiken to Saluda*, will be available in bookstores in the coming months. It covers the counties of Aiken, Edgefield, McCormick, Greenwood, and Saluda.

The landmark series, which is intended as a national model of its kind, began with the publication of *South Carolina Postcards: Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester Counties* in

1997. *South Carolina Postcards: Beaufort to Barnwell* appeared in 1998. It presented early views of the seven-county area once called Southern Carolina: Beaufort, Jasper, Hampton, Colleton, Bamberg, Allendale, and Barnwell.

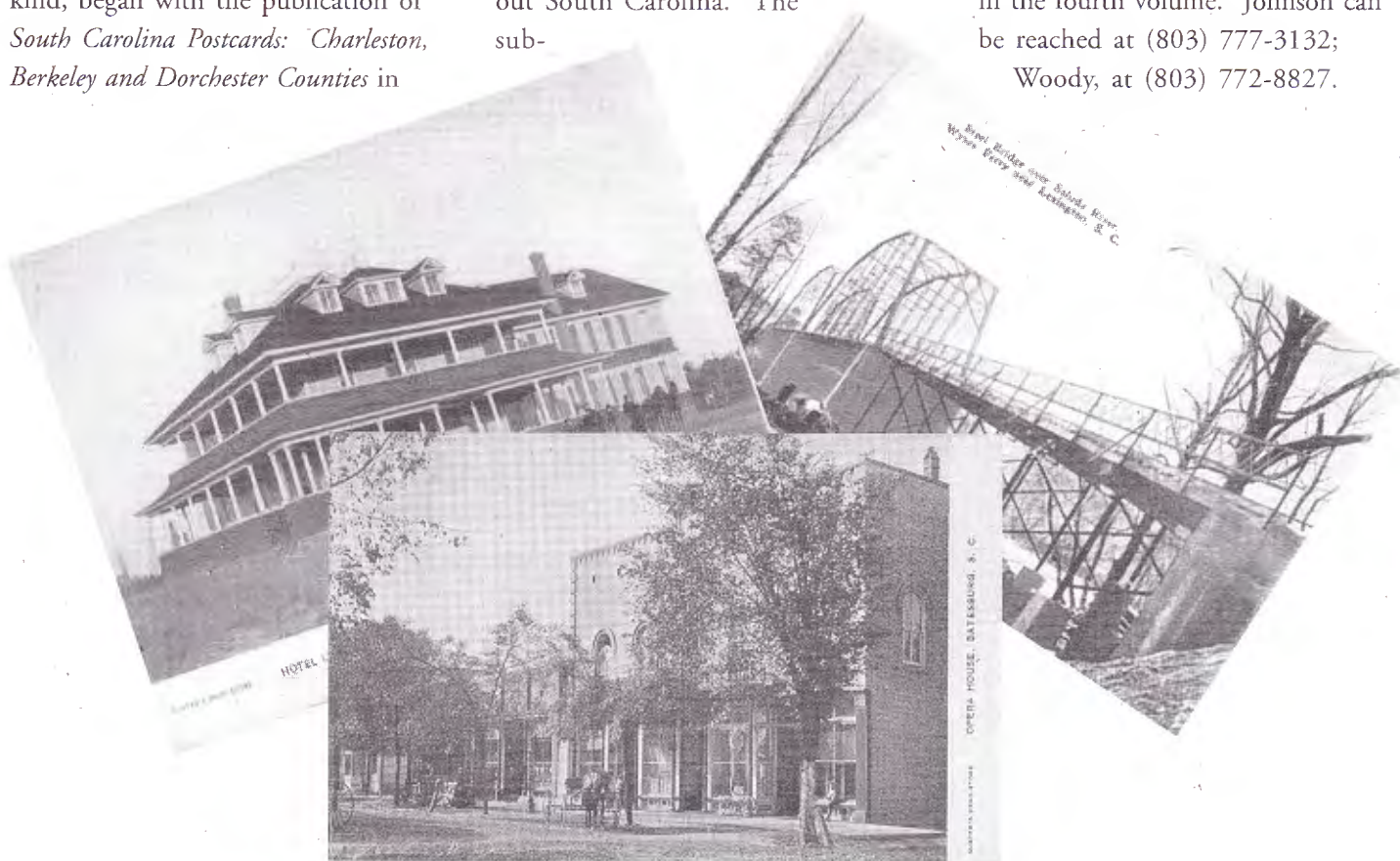
The new volume in the project, which presents rare pre-1930s postcard images of South Carolina organized by county clusters, will focus on Lexington County.

In this publishing venture, Woody and Johnson have tried to select the most significant, rare, and unusual images from among private and public postcard collections throughout South Carolina. The sub-

jects range from architectural images and individual and group portraits to documentation of events and occasions – and even disasters. Accompanying text provides as much history of the places, persons, events, and occasions depicted as space allows.

For their upcoming book on Lexington County, Johnson and Woody are particularly interested in locating rare postcard images made between 1900 and 1930, few of which seem to have survived. They would appreciate hearing from Society members and friends who may possess such items and who may be willing to have them reproduced in the fourth volume. Johnson can be reached at (803) 777-3132;

Woody, at (803) 772-8827.



Lexington County Images from the Library's Postcard Collection

Left: Hotel Lexington, "Summerland," Batesburg, circa 1905; Center: Opera house, Batesburg, circa 1909; Right: Steel bridge over the Saluda River, Wykes Ferry near Lexington, circa 1929.

SCL STAFF NEWS

Arrivals

The staff of the South Caroliniana Library expanded in the fall of 1999 with the arrival of three new employees.

Kate Moore, the new processing archivist at Modern Political Collections, moved to Columbia in August from the Washington, DC, area, where she worked for five years in the Gallery Archives of the National Gallery of Art. Moore graduated from the University of Alabama in 1986 with a B.A. in history. Following a two-year stay in Atlanta, she returned to Alabama and completed most of the course work required for a master's degree in history before taking the position in Washington.

Sam Fore recently joined the Library as the technical assistant in

the Manuscripts Division after eight years of service as a noncommissioned officer in the U. S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. A native of Union County, South Carolina, he graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1990 with a B.A. in history.

William J. ("Joe") Long has started work on the recently funded photograph preservation and access grant. Long is a Georgia native who began his college education with two years at the Naval Academy and went on to acquire a B.A. in English from the University of Georgia and an M.A. in history (augmented with archival studies) at Georgia College and State University. He worked for Mercer University's Main Library, first as a

book repair technician and later as a circulation staff member.

Retired

Terry Lipscomb retired from the Library in December. Before joining the staff in 1996, Terry worked for twenty-seven years at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. He has published and edited numerous articles on colonial history and the American Revolution. Lipscomb continues to share much of his time and knowledge with the Library as a volunteer; his commitment and dedication to both South Carolina's history and the Library is commendable and much appreciated.

HISTORIC MARKER COMMEMORATES GOVERNOR JOHN WEST'S BOYHOOD HOME

In December 1999, the Kershaw County Historical Society honored former Governor John C. West by placing a historic marker at his boyhood home. The dedication ceremony featured remarks by Harvey Teal, former President of the South Caroliniana Society, an officer of the Kershaw County Historical Society, and a long-time friend of John West.

In his remarks directed to West, Teal noted: "You have honorably served your country, your state and your nation with diligence, distinction, and dedication. In recognition of that service and to



Governor John C. West with his wife Lois and Harvey Teal in front of the historic marker.

honor you, all of your legion of friends and associates join with the Kershaw County Historical Society, the sponsoring organization, in erecting this historical marker on the

land of your birth."

The Library continues to receive additions to the collection of Governor West's papers. It is remarkably rich in content in part due to West's diligence in keeping a daily diary while governor (1971 to 1975) and United States ambassador to Saudi Arabia (1977 to 1981).

-Herbert J. Hartsook

SOUTH CAROLINA ACADEMY OF AUTHORS INDUCTEES FEATURED IN SCL EXHIBIT

Dori Sanders, Gwen Bristow, and Elliott White Springs – three South Carolina authors whose careers are documented in collections at the South Caroliniana Library – are the focus of the Library's exhibit during the month of April.

The three writers will be inducted into the South Carolina Academy of Authors on April 15 at USC's Capstone Conference Center. Ms. Sanders will be the principal speaker for the occasion.

Sanders' first book, *Clover* (1990), brought her immediate critical and popular acclaim. It received the coveted Lillian Smith Award, has been translated into five languages, has gone into ten hardback and numerous paperback printings, and was adapted for the screen. The York County native has also written another novel, *Her Own Story* (1993), as well as a cookbook, *Dori Sanders' Country Cooking* (1995). She presented the address at the 57th annual meeting of the University South Caroliniana Society in 1994. In addition to extensive vertical file holdings on Sanders, the Library owns the original manuscript for *Clover*.

Marion native Gwen Bristow (1903-1980) made her authorial debut in Columbia's leading newspa-

per, *The State*, in 1916 as a Taylor School student reporter. She worked as a career journalist before going on to become one of America's best-known popular novelists. Between 1930 and 1932, she wrote four mystery novels in

collaboration with her husband, Bruce Manning. *Deep Summer*, the first of her best-selling historical novels, appeared in 1937, followed by *The Handsome Road* (1938), *This Side of Glory* (1940), *Tomorrow Is Forever* (1943), *Jubilee Trail* (1950), *Celia Garth* (1959) and *Calico Palace* (1970). Her books were published in multiple languages and paperback editions, and were adapted for film.

The Library received Bristow's letters and papers in the early 1980s from her brother, Dr. Louis J. Bristow, and her publisher, Harper & Row.

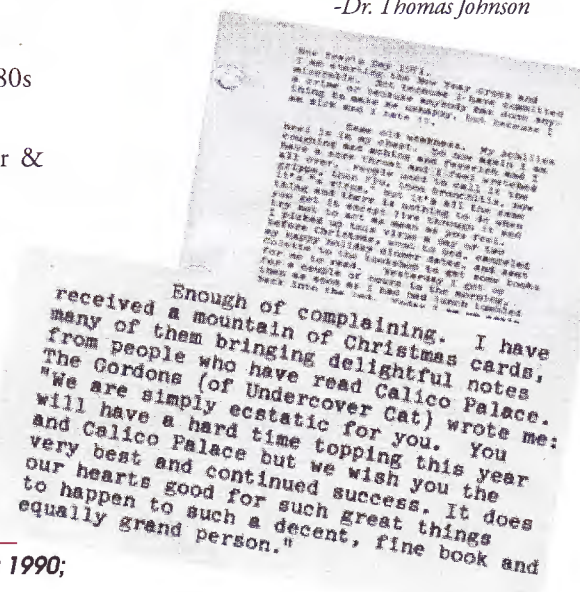
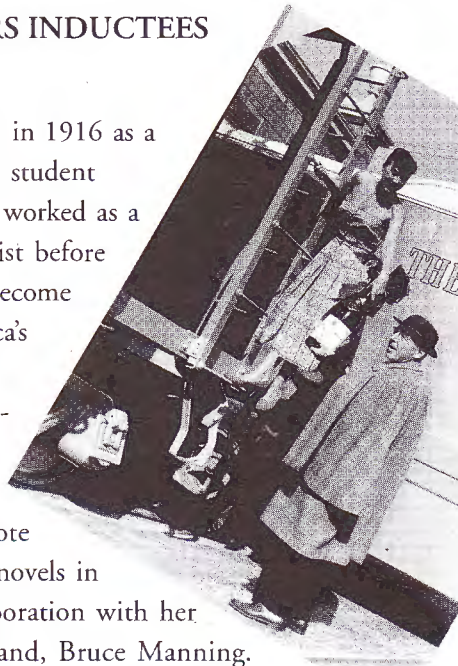
The writing career of Lancaster County's Elliott White Springs (1896-1959), who later became one of South Carolina's premiere industrialists, resulted in the publication of seven books and more than sixty stories and articles between 1926 and

1931. His most significant book was his first one, *War Birds: Diary of an Unknown Aviator* (1926), based upon the wartime air exploits of World War I flying ace Mac Grider.

The Library's voluminous Springs Collection includes letters, diaries, scrapbooks, and school and military records, in addition to copies of his books.

Items on display in the April exhibit will include a sampling of manuscripts and printed items from these collections. For further information about the exhibit, or for ticket information regarding the SCAA induction dinner, contact Thomas Johnson at the Library at (803) 777-3132 or -3133.

-Dr. Thomas Johnson



Top to bottom: Elliott White Springs with a Spring Maid, 1958; Dori Sanders, circa 1990; A page out of Gwen Bristow's diary shortly after she wrote *Calico Palace*, 1971.

ABBIE CHRISTENSEN AND THE GULLAH TALES OF PORT ROYAL

The papers of the Christensen Family document over 175 years in the lives of several generations of individuals with ties to South Carolina, Massachusetts, and Denmark. The collection chronicles the lives of the family of Niels Christensen (1840-1909), a native of Denmark and a Union soldier, and his wife, Abbie Holmes Christensen (1852-1938), a native of Massachusetts who settled in Beaufort with her family at the close of the Civil War. The family was very active in the civic and business community of Beaufort, South Carolina. They were also active in the temperance, suffrage, and civil rights movements in both South Carolina and Massachusetts and were founders of the Port Royal Agricultural School, a school for African

Americans in Beaufort.

The papers reveal Abbie's role in the evolving ethnic and social fabric of low country South Carolina immediately following Reconstruction, as well as her involvement in the suffrage movement and her interests in holistic medicine and alternative religions. The papers also document Abbie's career as a folklore writer.

As a young woman, Abbie pursued her formal education at the Ipswich Female Seminary and later at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. The liberal education and strong support base she received at these two prestigious institutions provided encouragement for her to pursue her interests in writing and folklore.

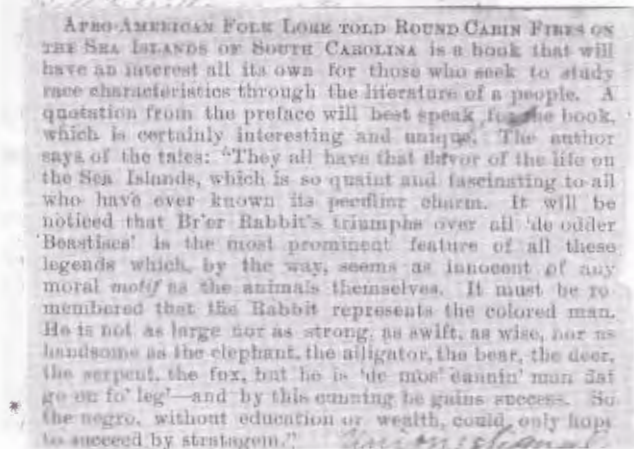
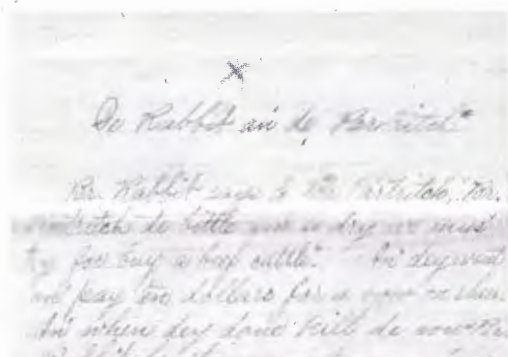
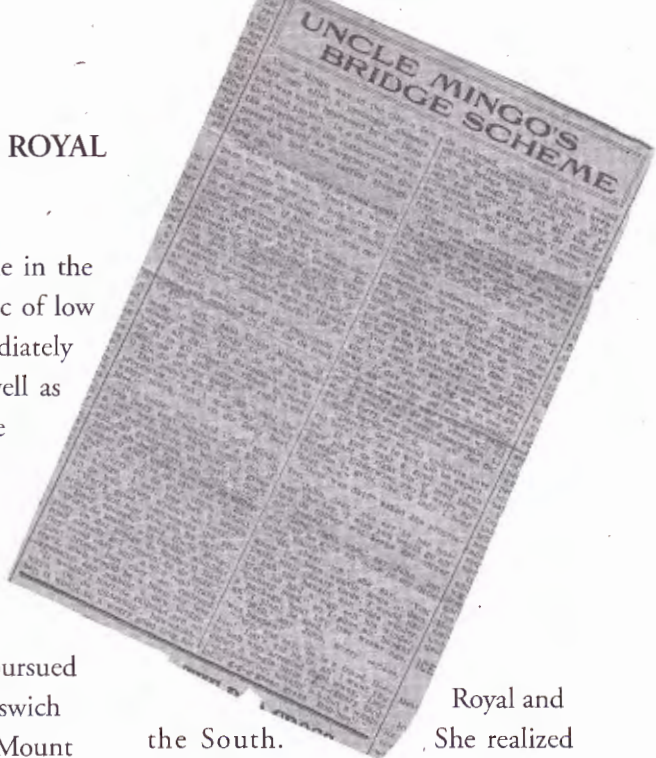
Abbie transformed a childhood fascination with Gullah culture and an interest in African-American folklore into a writing career. She compiled and recorded the folk tales she heard on a daily basis in Beaufort – something she had started to do at Mount Holyoke. Her first story, "De Wolf, De Rabbit An' De

Tar Baby" was published in *The Springfield Daily Republican* on June 2, 1874. With encouragement from her family and former professors, she continued seeking publication for the tales. Abbie hoped to share her fascination with the allegorical tales with an audience outside of Port

Royal and the South. She realized the importance of preserving and disseminating the oral tradition and legacy of Gullah folktales. Her success at capturing the Gullah dialect enabled her to publish the stories fairly regularly throughout the 1870s and 1880s.

Abbie's writing career culminated in 1892 with the publication of *Afro-American Folk Lore Told Round Cabin Fires in the Sea Islands of South Carolina*.

-Meg Moughan



Top: Newspaper clipping, "Uncle Mingo's Bridge Scheme," circa 1880s. Center: Handwritten text of a tale, circa 1880s; Bottom: Newspaper review of Abbie's book, 1892.

UNIVERSITY SOUTH CAROLINIANA SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Dr. Harry Lightsey, president (2002)

Col. Frank K. Babbitt, vice-president (2000)

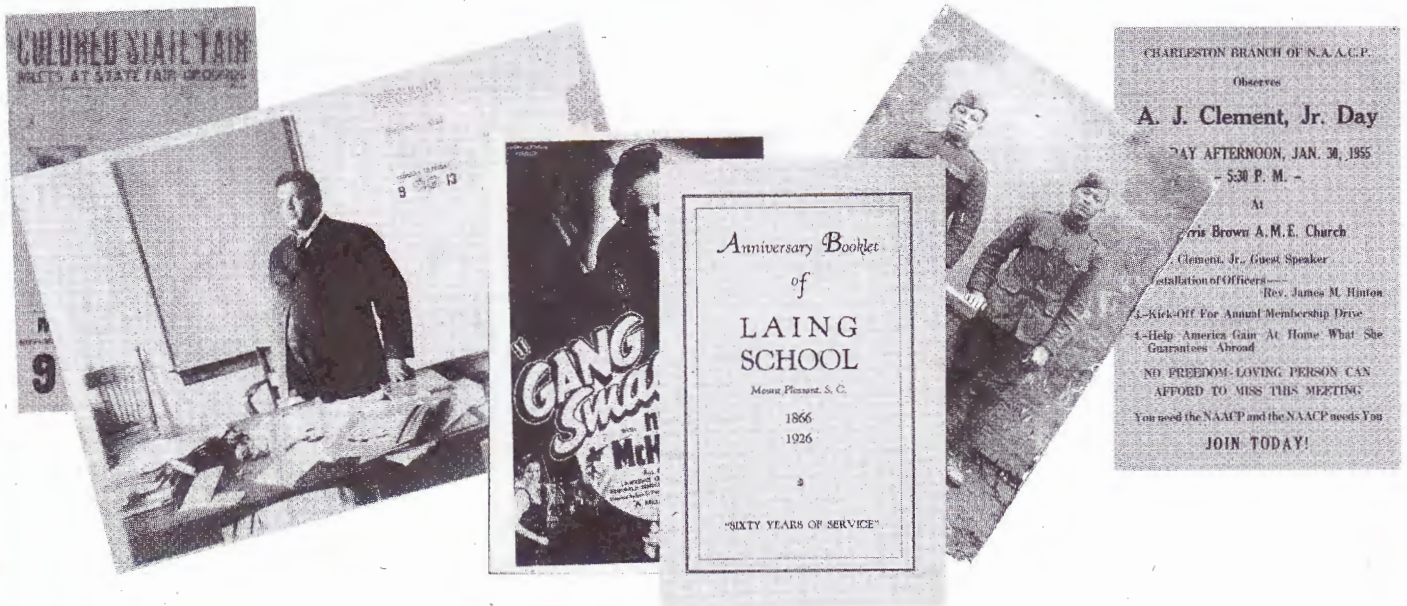
Mrs. Ruth Edens, vice-president (2002)

Dr. Allen Stokes, secretary/
treasurer

Ms. Meg Moughan, editor

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBIT AT SCL



An exhibit examining the contributions of South Carolina's black community during the twentieth century is on display at the South Caroliniana Library through March 31st.

"African Americana: A Century of Collecting at USC" contains materials from all of the Library's departments— Books, Manuscripts, Modern Political Collections, and University

Archives. The twentieth century saw a wide range of changes for black South Carolinians in political, educational, and community institutions and opportunities. Included are materials from musician Freddie Green's papers, 1940s photographs from the *Lighthouse and Informer* newspaper of Columbia, the founding of the Port Royal Agricultural School from the Christensen family papers, and documentation of

the civil rights struggle.

The exhibit is presented in two locations. An overview of twentieth-century black history in the state is located on display panels in the lobby. Five exhibit cases – three in the main reading room and two in the Kendall Room – are located on the second floor.

-Elizabeth West

Memorials

<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>From</i>
Miss Connie Andrea	Dr. Beverly Fowler	Mrs. Clara Mae Jacobs, Mrs.	
Mr. Michael Avery	Mrs. Sharon Avery	Eleanor Richardson, Mrs. Loulie	
Confederate States of America	Mr. Allan Thigpen	Pettigrew, Mrs. Martha Workman	Mr. E. L. Inabinett
Mr. Edward M. Craig	Mr. Henry Fulmer	Mr. C.A. Johnson	Mrs. Maude J. Robinson
	Dr. Allen Stokes	Mrs. Donald M. Law	Dr. Allen Stokes
Mrs. Mary Scott Derrick	Mr. Donald M. Law	Mr. John Lumpkin	Mrs. Jennie Dreher Hazlehurst
	Dr. Allen Stokes	Monsignor Richard C. Madden	Father Peter Clarke
Mr. Jere D. Eggleston	Mrs. Jere D. Eggleston	Mrs. Eunice B. Nix	Mrs. Mildred Rivers
Mrs. Mildred Gibbs Elliott	Mr. W. Talley Ellicott, Jr.	Mr. Thomas Pope	Dr. Walter B. Edgar
Mr. Christopher Fitzsimons, III	Mrs. Christopher Fitzsimons	Mr. Ben Stern	Dr. and Mrs. Selden K. Smith
Mr. Dewey D. Foster, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Mark Buyck, Jr.	Dr. John R. Welsh	Dr. and Mrs. Rayburn S. Moore
Dr. John R. Harvin	Mrs. John R. Harvin	The Rev. Benjamin J. Whipper	Mrs. Benjamin J. Whipper